[12th March 1934

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I ask whether the Government are aware that serious bus accidents are now the order of the day and that recently, two or three days ago, a very serious accident occurred on the Poonamallee High Road?"

The Hon. Sir HOPETOUN STOKES:—"That is not connected with the Railway administration."

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur:—"May I point out that the accident referred to in the question occurred through the negligence of the bus-driver? Therefore, may I ask whether the Government will take steps to prevent such bus accidents in the future?"

The Hon. Sir HOPETOUN STOKES:—"The Government will consider what action should be taken when they receive the District Magistrate's report."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I ask whether the Government have ever considered the necessity for third party insurance, where buses are running?"

The Hon. Sir HOPETOUN STOKES:—"That has nothing to do with the Railway administration."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"May I ask whether at this level-crossing there were no gates?"

The Hon. Sir HOPETOUN STOKES:—"I must ask for notice of the question."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"It has been definitely established that the accident was due to the negligence of the bus-driver on account of the non-provision of gates by the Railway company."

The Hon. Sir HOPETOUN STOKES:—"I would only refer the hon. Member to the extracts published in the answer from the joint enquiry; further details are awaited in the report of the District Magistrate which has been called for."

Irrigation

Improvements to the Velligal odai, Chidambaram taluk.

* 774 *Q.*—Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) what improvements the Government propose to make to Velligal odai immediately to alleviate or at least to mitigate the recurring flood in the surrounding villages;

(*b*) what is the estimated cost of the improvements to the odai; and

(*c*) when the work is going to be commenced and when completed?

A.—(*a*) *to* (*c*) The Government have not the information but have called for a report.